IN THE CLAIMS

1 (Currently Amended). A system comprising:

a speech recognizer that recognizes spoken requests for television programming information;

an output device that generates responses to spoken requests for television programming information; and

a processor coupled to a speaker and a microphone, the output from said speaker being subtracted from the output of said microphone to reduce interference between the audio portion of a television program and a spoken request.

~~a module coupled to said recognizer to implement conversational speech; and~~

~~a graphical user interface which provides information in a visual form about television programming and a voice user interface which responds to voice requests from the user, said graphical user interface and said voice user interface communicating such that the focus of one of said interfaces is communicated to the other.~~

Claims 2-3 (Canceled).

4 (Previously Amended). The system of claim 1 including a memory that stores an indication when a attribute recognized by the speech recognizer is spoken by the speech synthesizer.

5 (Previously Amended). The system of claim 1 wherein said module produces a select variable and a where variable from a query received from a user.

6 (Previously Amended). The system of claim 1 wherein said module develops a meaning derived from said speech recognizer and historical information about previously recognized speech and uses the historical information to modify the meaning derived from said speech recognizer.

7 (Original). The system of claim 6 wherein said module determines whether a query includes both a first and a second type of variable and if so, does not use the historical information to alter the meaning derived from a the speech recognizer.

8 (Original). The system of claim 7 wherein said module determines whether only one of two variable types is contained in a spoken request and if so, merges a variable with historical information to derive a meaning from the request.

9 (Currently Amended). The system of claim 1 2 wherein said module parses and stores time attributes in a request.

10 (Original). The system of claim 9 wherein said module forms time attributes with time ranges.

Claim 11 (Canceled).

12 (Original). The system of claim 1 including a television coupled to a set-top box and a remote control that controls said set-top box.

13 (Original). The system of claim 1 wherein said output device is a speech synthesizer that generates voice responses.

14 (Currently Amended). A method comprising:
    recognizing spoken requests for television programming information;
    generating responses to spoken requests for television programming information; and
    subtracting a signal from a television from the input from the user to reduce interference between the audio portion of the television program and a spoken request.
    providing conversational speech recognition; and

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~~providing a graphical user interface which generates information in a visual form about television programming and a voice user interface which responds to voice requests from the user, and communicating the focus of one of said interfaces to the other of said interface.~~

Claims 15-16 (Canceled).

17 (Previously Amended). The method of claim 14 including storing an indication when a generated response includes a recognized attribute from the spoken request.

18 (Previously Amended). The method of claim 14 including parsing a select variable and a where variable from a spoken request.

19 (Previously Amended). The method of claim 14 including storing meanings derived from current and historical requests and using the historical requests to supplement the meaning derived from said current requests..

20 (Original). The method of claim 14 including parsing and storing time attributes in a request.

Claim 21 (Canceled).

22 (Original). The method of claim 14 wherein generating responses includes synthesizing spoken responses.

23 (Currently Amended). An article comprising a medium for storing instructions that, if executed, enable ~~cause~~ a processor-based system to:

recognize spoken requests for television program information;

generate responses to spoken requests for television programming information; and

subtract a signal from a television from the input from the user to reduce interference between the audio portion of a television program to a spoken request.

~~provide conversational speech recognition; and~~

~~provide a graphical user interface which generates information in a visual form about television programming and a voice user interface which responds to voice request from the user, and to indicate the focus of one of said interfaces to the other of said interfaces.~~

Claims 24-25 (Canceled).

26 (Previously Amended). The article of claim 23 further storing instructions that cause a processor-based system to store an indication when a generated response includes a recognized attribute from the spoken request.

27 (Previously Amended). The article of claim 23 further storing instructions that, if executed, enable a processor-based system to parse a SELECT variable and a WHERE variable from a spoken request.

28 (Previously Amended). The article of claim 23 further storing instructions that cause a processor-based system to store meanings derived from the current and historical request and use the historical request to supplement the meaning derived from said current request.

29 (Original). The article of claim 23 further storing instructions that cause a processor-based system to parse and store time attributes in a request.

30 (Original). The article of claim 23 further storing instructions that cause a processor-based system to generate responses to spoken requests by synthesizing spoken responses.